

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 INT-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 COME-00 DRC-01 /057 W
----- 095033

R 281250Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2054

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 1108

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, GW

SUBJECT: FRG CY 1974 FERROUS SCRAP REQUIREMENTS

REF: A) STATE 18368; B) DUESSELDORF 157 AND 158

1. BOTH THE GERMAN STEEL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION AND THE GERMAN SCRAP DEALERS ASSOCIATION ARE HIGHLY RELUCTANT TO VENTURE ANY PREDICTION CONCERNING GERMAN STEEL PRODUCTION IN 1974. THERE IS, HOWEVER, SOME FEELING THAT THERE WILL BE A LESSENING IN DEMAND SOMETIME IN EARLY TO MID 1974. THIS IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TWO FACTORS: FIRST, THE BELIEF THAT AT LEAST PART OF THE BOOM HAS BEEN CAUSED BY SPECULATIVE BUYING AND, SECOND, AN APPARENT SLACKENING IN DEMAND FOR NEW AUTOMOBILES. IT IS PROBABLY SAFE TO ASSUME THAT 1974 PRODUCTION WILL CLOSELY PARALLEL 1973 PRODUCTION, ESTIMATED AT 50 MILLION METRIC TONS. QUARTERLY ESTIMATES ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

2. AGAIN, GERMAN SCRAP DEALERS ASSOCIATION IS UNWILLING TO ESTIMATE TOTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR 1974. DOMESTIC GERMAN NEEDS FOR 1973 ARE ESTIMATED AT 25 MILLION METRIC TONS. APPROXIMATELY 5 PERCENT OF THIS REQUIREMENT IS MET BY IMPORTS (1973 ESTIMATED TOTAL 1.3 MILLION METRIC TONS) WHICH COME LARGELY FROM OTHER EC COUNTRIES PRIMARILY HOLLAND AND BELGIUM. IMPORTS ARE MORE THAN MATCHED BY EXPORTS (1973 ESTIMATED EXPORTS 2 MILLION METRIC TONS) WHICH GO LARGELY TO ITALY. THIS RESULTS FROM THE GEOGRAPHIC CONFIGURATION OF THE MARKET AND RESULTANT TRANSPORTATION COSTS. IMPORTS FROM THE US HAVE BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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STEADILY DROPPING. 1971 IMPORTS FROM THE US WERE 11,000

METRIC TONS, BY 1972 THIS HAD DROPPED TO 7,700 METRIC TONS,
AND IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1973 TO ONLY 625 TONS. IT IS
ESTIMATED THAT 1974 FIGURES WILL ROUGHLY PARALLEL 1973 FIGURES.
THE GERMAN SCRAP DEALERS ASSOCIATION EMPHASIZES THAT THE FRG
HAS NO REQUIREMENT FOR IMPORTS OF SCRAP FROM THE US OTHER THAN
OCCASIONAL UNPREDICTABLE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIALIZED TYPES
OF SCRAP. QUARTERLY FIGURES ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

3. FOR DETAILS OF EXPORT CONTROLS, SEE REF. B)HENNEMEYER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, EXPORTS, STEEL, PRODUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DUSSEL01108
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: DUSSELDORF
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973094/aaaaacqo.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 18368; B) DUESSELDORF 157 A, ND 158
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <06-Sep-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG CY 1974 FERROUS SCRAP REQUIREMENTS
TAGS: EIND, ETRD, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005